



Administrative and Residual Employees Union

Local 4200, AFT CT, AFT, AFL-CIO

705 North Mountain Road, Suite A211, Newington, CT 06111-1411

Telephone (860) 953-1316 ■ 1-800-842-4443 ■ Fax (860) 953-1377

Professionals Working So State Government Works

Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

Testimony on February 14, 2011 on

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIP, Raised Bill No. 6308

By Michael A. Winkler, First Vice-President, A&R, Local 4200 of AFT
A&R represents the administrative (P-5) bargaining unit of state employees.

Section 2, states: "The Comptroller shall offer coverage..." and, "The Comptroller shall offer coverage..." and, "The Comptroller shall offer participation..." This bill does not mandate anyone do anything except for the Comptroller, and he's willing to take on the mandate.

Section 2(g) protects the State Employee Plan from any possible harm from Federal law for offering coverage.

Section 3 makes participation in the plan a permissive subject of collective bargaining. Only if a municipality and a union voluntarily agree will bargaining occur on the conditions under which participation may occur.

Section 3 uses an actuary to make sure that no employer shifts a disproportionate part of their employees' medical risks to the state employee plan.

Section 4 uses an actuary to make sure that no employer shifts a disproportionate part of their retirees' medical risks to the state employee plan.

Section 8 requires that SEBAC agree to include Sections 1-5 into the state employees collective bargaining agreement on health care before coverage under the state employee plan is offered. This provides state employees all of the protection that their agreement has now.

In summary, this bill is an offer to municipalities and small employers. They're free to take it or not as they wish. The state employee plan is protected.

Thank you.